Both proposing and evaluating groundwater management strategies require high-quality data, particularly on the history of water levels. Development of a hydrologic database over time is key to a sustainable future for a groundwater system. Good management decisions must be supported by good data. In Wisconsin, in some places, monitoring points for a statewide hydrologic system are in place; in some places they are threatened; in others, they are absent.

For this reason,

(Version 1)

The Groundwater Advisory Committee recommends the legislature provide renewable funding for the long-term operation and maintenance of a groundwater level and surface water level monitoring and data management system throughout the state.

(Version 2)

The Groundwater Advisory Committee recommends the legislature provide renewable funding for the long-term operation and maintenance of groundwater level and surface water level monitoring and data management systems throughout the state.

(Version 3)

The Groundwater Advisory Committee recommends the legislature provide renewable funding for the long-term operation and maintenance of groundwater level and surface water level monitoring and data management systems throughout the state. The monitoring effort should consist of two elements; a base level monitoring system that covers the state, and targeted monitoring systems in existing or potential GMAs that are designed to support the specific needs and management objectives of the area. The targeted monitoring programs should be designed with substantial support and guidance from the GMA or potential GMA.